

Remarks/ Arguments

Claims 44 to 49 and 52 to 60 are pending in this patent application. Claim 44 has been amended, without prejudice. Claims 55 and 56 have been canceled herein, without prejudice. Support for the amendment to claim 44 is found, for example, in claims 55 and 56. No new matter has been added.

The Action includes a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested respectfully.

Discussion of the Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

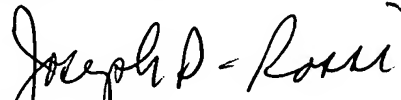
Claims 44, 46 to 49, 52, 53, 55, and 58 to 60 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over either U.S. patent application Publication No. 2004/0121620 to Pomarede et al. ("Pomarede"). Although Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection, Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments render the rejection moot. In this regard, independent claim 44 has been amended to include the recitations of claims 55 and 56, which were indicated as allowable by the Action if re-written in the form of an independent claim. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are requested respectfully.

Conclusion

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a complete and full response to the Action of record. Applicants respectfully submit that this application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, an indication of allowability and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee required and any additional fees that may be needed to Deposit Account No. 01-0493 in the name of Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph D. Rossi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" and last name "Rossi" clearly distinguishable.

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